

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

C O N F I D E N T I A L KIEV 001162

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/24/2016

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PHUM](#) [PGOV](#) [PINR](#) [KDEM](#)

SUBJECT: UKRAINE/BELARUS: GOU STATEMENTS ON BELARUSAN
ISOLATION

Classified By: Ambassador for reasons 1.4(a,b,d).

[1](#)1. (SBU) On March 24 DCM relayed concerns (ref A) regarding a March 21 MFA statement calling the international isolation of Belarus ineffective (ref B) to MFA Second Territorial Department Deputy Director Ihor Prokopchuk. DCM characterized the March 21 statement by GOU spokesman Filipchuk as unhelpful and requested the GOU refrain from referring to a Western policy of isolating Belarus, since no such policy existed and the Belarus regime was isolating itself. Prokopchuk took note of the request and asked that we identify for him statement in question for review.

[1](#)2. (C) Prokupchuk asked for the USG response to the overnight actions in Minsk, where the GOB removed protestors from the streets. DCM anticipated USG would condemn the action and offered to notify GOU when the statement was released. Prokopchuk said GOU was preparing to release a statement indicating the GOU was deeply disturbed by the action, asking Belarus to ensure the right of Belarusians to peaceful assembly and asking for tolerance and the avoidance of repressive actions. The GOU statement would also address concerns over the Ukrainian citizens detained; one had been detained during the previous night and another on March 22. In addition, 37 Ukrainian citizens on a train and 16 on a bus had been prevented from entering Belarus.

[1](#)3. (U) Visit Embassy Kiev's classified website:
www.state.sgov.gov/p/eur/kiev.
Herbst